

I respectfully urge the FCC to reject the NAB's petition 04-160 to deny satellite radio's broadcasting of local traffic and weather information. As a subscriber of XM satellite radio, I find their coverage of local traffic and weather to be a vital part of my daily life.

XM's traffic and weather information is always constant, pertinent, and accurate. A toll free number is frequently provided for listeners to report traffic problems, essentially creating a network of roving traffic reporters. Although the local coverage of Orlando, Florida is a valuable part of my everyday life, the weather coverage of other cities across the country has proved just as useful in preparing for travel. Also, the channels broadcast AMBER Alerts with both Tag and Vehicle description continuously on the display to Aid in the safe return of kidnapped individuals.

Compare this to local coverage on FM and AM where traffic reports are infrequent and obsolete. At the most, traffic is reported four times an hour. Traffic, by nature, is an ever changing phenomena and the infrequent nature by which it is reported on local FM and AM finds many accidents cleared before the information is broadcast. In the case of AMBER Alerts, the sporadic reporting of such vital information on FM and AM stations does not provide the constant vigil of the XM display.

As a consumer, I am appalled that the National Association of Broadcasters would try to limit satellite radio's ability to broadcast local traffic and weather information. Satellite Radio is doing what a free market allows. Satellite radio companies have found a product that is grossly deficient, in this case FM and AM radio, and offered an alternative. Members of the NAB should realize that they are no longer serving their customers needs and change their methods, rather than use muscle to terminate the competition.

It is a free market and the market should decide, not the companies who are loosing market share as a result of their obsolescence.